

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/615,894

Examiner

Rakesh K. Dhingra

Applicant(s)

OOTSUKA, TAKESHI

Art Unit

1763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's response dt. 12/11/06 to Final Rejection office action.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 2.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |


Rakesh Dhingra

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Max Moskowitz on 12/29/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An electrode-built-in susceptor for a plasma processing apparatus comprising:
 - a susceptor base body made of an aluminum-nitride-group-sintered-member having a mounting surface for carrying a plate sample thereon for semiconductor wafer processing;
 - an inner electrode which is built in the susceptor member base body;
 - a power supplying terminal disposed in the susceptor base body, the power supplying terminal contacting the inner electrode, the power supplying terminal being formed by a conductive aluminum-nitride-tantalum-nitride-composite-sintered-member; and
 - an insulating layer formed by one of a boron nitride, a lithium oxide, an aluminum oxide, or a magnesium oxide, the insulating layer being formed between the inner electrode and the mounting surface.
2. (Currently Amended) An electrode-built-in susceptor for a plasma processing apparatus comprising:
 - a susceptor base body made of an aluminum-nitride-group-sintered-member having a mounting surface for carrying a plate sample thereon for semiconductor wafer processing;
 - a plurality of inner electrodes built in the susceptor base body;
 - a plurality of power supplying terminals disposed in the susceptor base body, each power supplying terminal contacting the respective inner electrodes, each power supplying terminal being formed by a conductive aluminum-nitride-

tantalum-nitride-composite-sintered-member; and

an insulating layer which is formed by at least a boron nitride, a lithium oxide, an aluminum oxide, or a magnesium oxide, the insulating layer being formed at one of: between the inner electrode disposed nearest the mounting surface, and the mounting surface; and between [a] an adjacent pair of the plurality of inner electrodes adjacent to each other.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2 allowed.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 2 – Prior art (US Patent No. 6,693,78 -Inazamuchi et al) and (US Patent No. 6,475,924 – Yamamoto et al) do not teach claim limitation “the power supplying terminal being formed by a conductive aluminum-nitride-tantalum-nitride-composite-sintered-member” in the context of remaining limitations of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rakesh K. Dhingra whose telephone number is (571)-272-5959. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 -6:00 (Monday - Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on (571)-272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Rakesh Dhingra



RAM N. KACKAR, P.E.
PRIMARY EXAMINER